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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

COGSWELL BUILDING

STATE OF MONTANA

HELENA, MONTANA 59620

January 4, 1985

Re: Preliminary Environmental Review
Cascade Container Site

Board of County Commissioners, Cascade County Courthouse, Great Falls
Pete Frazier, County Health Dept., 1130 17th Ave.S., Great Falls
Donald Pizzini, Health Officer, 1130 17th Ave.S., Great Falls
Town of Cascade, P. O. Box 314, Cascade, MT
Tom Ellerhoff, Environmental Sciences Division, Cogswell Bldg, Helena
Environmental Quality Council, Capitol Building, Helena
Harold Chambers, State Library, Capitol Complex, Helena

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Pursuant to the Administrative Rules of Montana, 16.2.604,
the following Preliminary Environmental Review has been prepared by the
Department of Health and Environmental Sciences concerning Town of
Cascade Container Site.

The purpose of the Preliminary Environmental Review is to inform
all interested governmental agencies, public groups or individuals of
the proposed action and to determine whether or not the action may have
a significant effect on the human environment. This Preliminary
Environmental Review will be circulated for a period of fifteen (15)
days at which time a decision will be made as to our future action.

If you care to comment on this proposed action, please do so within
the allotted time.

Sincerely,

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

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1515 E. 6th AVE.
HELENA, MONTANA. 59620

JEL:vc
Encls.

James E. Leiter
JAMES E. LEITER
Solid Waste Management Bureau
Environmental Sciences Division



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
Cogswell Building, Helena, Montana 59601
(406) 444-2821

PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Division/Bureau Environmental Sciences Division/Solid Waste Management Bureau

Project or Application Town of Cascade Container Site

Description of Project The Town of Cascade has made application for a solid waste management system license for the Cascade Container site consisting of 1.5 acres located in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 26, Township 18N, Range 1W. The 40 yard transfer container will be serviced by the Cascade County Refuse Disposal District. Maintenance of the site and the surrounding area is the responsibility of the Town of Cascade. This document will address potential environmental impacts of the site. A copy of the completed application is available for inspection in this office or is available by mail.

POTENTIAL IMPACT ON PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments on Attached Pages
1. Terrestrial & aquatic life and habitats				X		
2. Water quality, quantity and distribution				X		
3. Geology & soil quality, stability and moisture				X		
4. Vegetation cover, quantity and quality			X			
5. Aesthetics			X			
6. Air quality			X			
7. Unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources				X		
8. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air & energy				X		
9. Historical and archaeological sites				X		

POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments on Attached Pages
1. Social structures and mores				X		
2. Cultural uniqueness and diversity				X		
3. Local and state tax base & tax revenue			X			
4. Agricultural or industrial production				X		
5. Human health			X			
6. Quantity and distribution of community and personal income				X		
7. Access to and quality of recreational and wilderness activities				X		
8. Quantity and distribution of employment				X		
9. Distribution and density of population and housing				X		
10. Demands for government services			X			
11. Industrial & commercial activity			X			
12. Demands for energy			X			
13. Locally adopted environmental plans & goals				X		
14. Transportation networks & traffic flows			X			

Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction Cascade City County Health Department

Individuals or groups contributing to this PER. _____

Recommendation concerning preparation of EIS No EIS Necessary

PER Prepared by: *James E. Leiter*

JAMES E. LEITER

Date: January 4, 1985

PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
Cascade County Container Site
January 4, 1985

In the town's application, several items have been included which will minimize environmental risk from the container site and wood waste disposal area. These include provisions for litter fencing between the container and the river, adequate signing to control the deposition of wood wastes, supervision on an "as needed" basis to regulate the wood waste disposal area, and assurances that open burning of the wood waste pile will be done under air quality permits.

The following comments address those items checked "minor" on the attached sheet:

Potential Impact on Physical Environment

4) Vegetation cover, quantity and quality -

Operation of the container program and wood waste disposal area will result in approximately 1.5 acres of relatively unvegetated area. This should result in minor environmental impacts.

5) Aesthetics -

Under normal operation and maintenance, the site should not be aesthetically objectionable. With regular removal of litter accumulations, and careful burning of wood waste under permit conditions, only a minor impact can be expected.

6) Air Quality -

Assuring that open burning is done under controlled, permitted conditions there will be little or no impact on air quality. Occasional accidental fires have occurred in the past in the container. These can have more of an impact on air quality and aesthetics, but are generally highly localized. The town fire department has endeavored to quickly extinguish any such blazes.

Potential Impact on Human Environment

3) Local and state tax base and tax revenue -

The system will be supported by fees assessed the town for maintenance and removal of containers. The town will be financially responsible for direct site maintenance and personnel for supervision, wood burning, and related functions.

5) Human health -

As long as the system is properly operated, there should be minimal or no impact on human health. Fires in the container can cause some safety hazards and must be avoided.

10) Demands for government services -

The system will be operated by the town and the Cascade County Refuse Disposal District, so there will be some requirements for government services.



11) Industrial and commercial activity -

Use of the site for solid waste disposal will result in a regular pattern of commercial traffic to the site. Other commercial and industrial activity should be very limited.

12) Demands for energy -

The added service stop will result in somewhat of an increased consumption of fossil fuel energy. The increase will be offset, however, by a reduction in fuel consumption over the former landfill activity.

14) See #11 above

